

Sneller Salute



GREETINGS FROM COLORADO, a land that, for us, is as foreign as it is familiar! We are well, getting established, and learning a lot as a family. The transition to living in the United States has brought a lot of interesting observations from all of us. Besides the general newness of the transition, there was the process of selecting a church and attending public schools. Both are new experiences for our kids. It was great to guide our kids through both, and there was lots of grace through it. There were many opportunities to hold our opinions, ask for help, and be extremely kind to ourselves, each other, and others. For a while, each day had something hard. Thankfully, it has been unifying as a family.



Our three phases of this Home Assignment are re-entry, rest, and re-evaluation. Where are we now in the process? We seem to be reaching the end of re-entry. However, such transitions are not clean stages but are rather happening simultaneously. As for re-entry, decision fatigue is still there, but we are all less overwhelmed than we were. That naturally provides some rest, but as we all know, rest is not automatic. We will be working with a sabbatical coach to consider how to get the rest we need. As we experience more rest, we will have more space to re-evaluate and consider what is next. Clarity seems much easier to come by when we are prioritizing the rest we need.

To assist with re-entry, rest, and re-evaluation, our family will be attending a weeklong missionary debriefing and renewal program at Mission Training International in Palmer Lake, Colorado. Even though it is only 30 minutes south of us, getting away to process all that has happened and all that has

changed for us as a family will be essential for all of us going forward. In missions, there is a lot of talk about compounded grief that remains unattended. There is also the complexity of emotions, with things feeling positive (yay!) and negative (yuck!) at the same time. As parents, this is a practical way to honor and help our kids with all the changes they experienced not only this year, but throughout their lives. It is important for Rebecca and me, too, and we are excited about it.



Thank you for your love and care through this season of Home Assignment. This is sacred work and a special opportunity made possible only through your prayerful and practical support. We are grateful to have you walking with us through life and ministry. That was true on the field and now stateside. What a gift of grace you are to us! Please pray as you feel led about all that we shared. On the next page are some answers to prayer and updated requests.

Much love and God bless,

Deric Sneller (on behalf of the Snellers)

ANSWERS TO PRAYER:

- Our travels were safe and smooth as we flew and drove many miles in a 15-passenger van.
- Tobin's fractured wrist healed quickly, and he received a brace shortly after arriving in Colorado.
- We were blessed to borrow two vehicles, which gave us time to thoughtfully purchase a used Toyota Sienna.
- Our home is mostly established, and our rhythms are taking shape now that school has started.
- We were able to reconnect with many friends and family this summer, which was a joy.
- We continue to make new friends and get to know our neighbors, and so far, so good.
- We chose a church close to home that all three kids really love, and they are involved in the youth group.
- All the kids are enjoying their new schools and the extracurriculars they offer.
- The Kaiserslautern House had wonderful short-term staff who loved that community well.



PRAYER REQUESTS:

- For Tobin, Evan, and Kara, as they continue to adjust to public school and life in America. Please pray specifically for quality friends for them.
- Pray for our time of debriefing and renewal at Mission Training International on October 11–17.
- Pray for wisdom and clarity as we re-evaluate and discern what God has for our family and ministry in the next season.
- Please pray for the Kaiserslautern Hospitality House community, for those serving as short-term staff, and for the provision of full-time staff to serve there.



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